

IN GOD WE TRUST

National motto opponents strike out in federal court

NEW YORK (BP) — A case filed by atheists who want the national motto, "In God We Trust," removed from U.S. currency has been dismissed by a federal district judge in New York.

The ruling was issued Sept. 9 after the judge found the presence of the national motto on currency had not created a "substantial burden" on the plaintiffs, who included 18 atheists, humanists, an organization called New York City Atheists, and the Freedom from Religion Foundation.

"While Plaintiffs may be inconvenienced or offended by the appearance of the motto on currency, these burdens are not substantial," wrote Harriet Judge for the Southern District of New York.

In the case, *Atheists, et al., v. U.S. Treasury*, the plaintiffs had alleged that their repeated use of federal currency bearing the national motto forced them to endorse the idea of the existence of God each time they undertook a financial transaction.

One of the plaintiffs, a numismatist or coin collector, also said she was forced to stop collecting coins because she was repeatedly angered by the presence of the motto on U.S. coinage.

see MOTTO on p. 5

McRaney to head baptists in Md., Del.

COLUMBIA, Md. (BP and local reports) — Former Mississippi Baptist pastor Will H. McRaney Jr. has been chosen to serve as executive director of the Baptist Convention of Maryland/Delaware (BCMD), after the BCMD search team "wholeheartedly" recommended the former Mississippi State University football and baseball player to the convention's General Mission Board.



MCRANEY

The General Mission Board voted unanimously Sept. 10 to call McRaney to fill the position vacated by David Lee, who retired from the Columbia, Md.-based convention on July 31.

McRaney, 50, sees his new role as an executive missional strategist. "While there are organizational and legal matters that impact our churches, our primary purpose as churches and the BCMD is to be on

see MCRANEY on p. 4

Pledge fight taken up by Massachusetts top court

BOSTON (BP) — A case challenging the words, "under God," in the Pledge of Allegiance is being weighed by the Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts, where state law requires schoolchildren to recite the pledge daily as a patriotic exercise.

The case before the court stems from a lawsuit filed in 2010 by the American Humanist Association on behalf of atheist parents of schoolchildren in the Acton-Boxborough School District.

Attorneys for the humanist plaintiffs avoided claiming that the pledge represents a state establishment of religion, as most of the pledge cases have in the past. Instead, attorneys argued in *Doe v. Acton-Boxborough Regional School District* that reciting the pledge, which re-

quires atheists to say the words, "under God," is discriminatory and violates the state's equal protection laws.

A state Superior Court judge ruled in 2012 that the words, "under God," did not violate the law but reflected a political philosophy evident in the history of the pledge and state law itself. The judge also stated reciting the pledge is not a religious exercise.

David Niose, attorney for the atheist families, argued before the Supreme Judicial Court on Sept. 4 that the case "presents a classic equal protection situation where an unpopular and wrongly vilified minority faces obvious official discrimination."

"The trial court failed to apply strict scrutiny despite constitutional and statutory enumera-

tion requiring it," Niose told the court. "[The pledge] affirms very unambiguously that the nation is 'one nation, under God.' Had the 'under God' words not been in there, it would have been 'one nation, indivisible.' But by inserting 'under God' language into the pledge, we have a pledge where children every morning are pledging their national unity and loyalty in an indoctrination format which validates religious, God-belief as truly patriotic."

The phrase, "under God," creates two classifications of citizens, Niose argued, because it "actually invalidates atheism, as second-class citizenry at best and downright unpatriotic at worst." Therefore, Niose said, the practice violates the state's equal protection and anti-discrimination laws.

Niose's equal protection and discrimination claims make the pledge case one of the first of its kind in the nation. But it is a strategy familiar to many activists in the state.

Should the court rule in favor of the school district, the decision may be appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court, though the challenge to the law likely would be met as others that addressed the words, "under God," in the pledge since the phrase was added in 1954.

In 2004 the Supreme Court ruled the requirement to say the pledge in schools was not a violation of separation of church and state.

The Supreme Judicial Court issued no timeline for its ruling on *Doe v. Acton-Boxborough Regional School District*.

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From the editor

WILLIAM PERKINS

Timid press releases, disinterested bureaucrats

Finally, the U.S. government has taken decisive action on behalf of the Iranian-American Christian pastor being tortured and denied medical care in the bowels of one of the most notorious prisons in the world.

The administration of U.S. President Barack Obama trotted out Secretary of State John Kerry in late August to speak forcefully for Robert Levinson, who vanished in Iraq in 2007; Amir Hekmati, who was arrested in Iraq in 2011; and Saeed Abedini, the pastor who is being held in Evin Prison in Tehran where he is routinely isolated, starved, beaten, and denied medical care for internal injuries from the beatings.

"The United States respectfully asks the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to work cooperatively with us in our efforts to help U.S. citizens Robert Levinson, Amir Hekmati, and Saeed Abedini to return to their families after lengthy detentions," Kerry said in a low-level press release from his spokesperson's office.

That's it. That's the decisive action our government has taken to gain the release of Abedini and the others. While the statuses of Levinson and Hekmati are no less important than Abedini's, it is on the pastor that Christian groups have focused due to his arrest and conviction on religious charges while helping construct an orphanage in the country of his birth.

If you're unimpressed with Kerry's dynamism on this subject, you're not alone. "While Secretary Kerry's statement puts Pastor Saeed's case back in the diplomatic spotlight, paper statements alone will not bring about his freedom," wrote Jordan Sekulow, executive director of the Washington, D.C.-based American Center for Law and Justice (ACLJ), which represents Abedini's wife and two young sons in the U.S. He was writing on the ACLJ blog, *The Docket*.

While carefully choosing his words so as not to obstruct the diplomatic effort to obtain the release of Abedini and the others, Sekulow pointed out, "It is time for the President of the United

States to engage this case. When a U.S. citizen — a Christian pastor — is illegally imprisoned in a foreign land, it should be a top priority of the President to bring him home."

Sekulow also quoted Naghmeh Adedini, Saeed's wife, as saying, "I am very thankful for the statement that Secretary of State John Kerry made to Iran regarding Saeed's immediate return to our family, and I hope that the State Department is truly willing to explore all avenues to secure my husband's release."

"While I am pleased with this development, I still expect my president, President Obama, who has remained silent thus far, to speak out on this very critical human rights issue and let the Iranian government and the world know that religious freedom is still a top priority for our government. President Obama must demonstrate that America will not stay silent in the face of religious persecution, nor will it let an American citizen waste away in an Iranian prison simply because he chose to follow Jesus."

Is that too much to ask? Do we expect too much of our President to believe he could set aside a few moments to speak to this pastor's cruel imprisonment at the hands of one of America's most entrenched and hateful enemies? Even more over the top, is there nothing within the context of his vast powers that he can do to resolve this situation?

It is inarguable that Saeed Abedini will eventually die in Evin prison, for his high crime of being an unapologetic Christian. His Iranian tormentors have fore-ordained that outcome, and the clock is ticking down. Meanwhile, the only action that our government takes is the issuance of timid press releases in the language of disinterested bureaucrats.

As for Saeed Abedini, he is proud to uphold a tragic, 2,000-year old tradition of the faith about which American Christians know so little. In a letter written on scraps of newspaper and smuggled out of the prison piece by tiny piece, he declared, "The Joy of the Lord is my strength. Amen."

Some things never change.

Detroit's bigger bankruptcy

In the midst of Detroit's financial bankruptcy, there is a much greater void — a spiritual bankruptcy.

Detroit has had international impact for decades. Over several generations, Detroit has set the pace for American culture through its industry, music, sports, and much more. The world has changed because of Detroit. Nevertheless, we now ponder what has happened to this great city.

Even amid good things that are happening in Detroit, the city sits under a cloud of financial failure. The snapshot of failure is captured in the tens of thousands of abandoned buildings, thousands of homeless residents, decades of corrupt politics, and failing city services.

These images are a physical manifestation of the spiritual bankruptcy that exists in Detroit, images illustrating a decades-long spiritual void now consumed by sin and in a spiraling decline.

What has led to such spiritual bankruptcy? Why would any individual desire to live in such a place? How can we explain the great need to see the darkness eradicated in such a city of spiritual blight? How can Detroit recover from spiritual bankruptcy?

Let me propose three godly steps to spiritual renewal in Detroit.

■ Recognize the crisis: Unlike many areas of our country, Detroit has never experienced a spiritual awakening. The Detroit metro area suffers a hopelessness that flows from either a lack of spiritual awareness or an inability of more than 100 religious groups to reach the masses. Those groups range from the evangelical, to high church and mainline groups, to extreme cults.

■ Mobilize prayer warriors: The light of the Good News of Jesus can only shine brightly in Detroit with the support of prayer warriors. Prayer battalions of believers can attack the spiritual forces not of this world. This spiritual battle requires many hours of prayer.

■ Follow God's recovery plan: As Jesus looked down on Jerusalem, He cried tears of hurt and disappointment at the spiritual bankruptcy He identified. Viewing Detroit, I see two parts of God's plan for recovery from spiritual bankruptcy.

First, start new churches. God's chosen instrument to reach and disciple people is the local church. Statistics show the greatest evangelistic impact we can have in any community is starting a new church. We must adopt God's plan for recovery from spiritual bankruptcy by planting evangelistic, Bible-teaching churches throughout the area.



Guest opinion
with Bobby Gilstrap

Lastly, see new life for established churches. The word "revitalization" is more than just a fad. Established churches must be revitalized or Detroit never will recover from its spiritual bankruptcy. This will require men willing to invest their lives in the process of turning churches toward growth and health.

A powerful move of the Holy Spirit is essential to Detroit's recovery. We must send the most gifted, God-called church planters — men who are servant leaders, entrepreneurial leaders, and evangelistic leaders who love the lost at all cost. We must send men who are called and willing to join the spiritual battle to push back the lostness in this great city. They will start churches of all sizes, among all language groups, among all ethnicities. These will be men called to go beyond the convenient and comfortable, to sacrifice the unimaginable.

We need partners dedicated to an end vision of healthy, reproducing churches. We need individuals and churches willing to pray unceasingly to reach Detroit. We need partners committed to giving long-term financial support to these new churches and their pastors.

Will you accept the call to join us in Detroit as we walk with God, seeking this city's spiritual recovery? Will you commit as an individual or church to be a part of the battalion of prayer warriors covering Detroit in prayer for its salvation? Will you partner as an individual or church to support the leaders sacrificing to minister in Detroit?

My prayer is that untold thousands of committed believers will join us in reaching this great city for Christ. Are you willing to be one of those committed to make a difference in Detroit? I pray you are!

Gilstrap is lead missionary and executive director of the Baptist State Convention of Michigan in Fenton. His commentary appears courtesy of Baptist Press.

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Biblical call is basis for NAMB prayer for laborers in harvest

ALPHARETTA, Ga. (BP) — The Luke 10:2 biblical call to pray laborers into the Lord's harvest undergirds the North American Mission Board (NAMB) TenTwo initiative for churches to pray for laborers on Oct. 2 and beyond.

Daniel Ausbun, pastor of First Church in Moreland, Ga., is among those who have shared the online TenTwo prayer initiative video with their churches.

"We showed the two-minute video and read Luke 10:2," Ausbun said. "[Everyone] was nodding their heads in agreement that we have an abundant harvest and we need to ask God to send workers into the harvest field. Everyone knows we need to pray, and TenTwo provides an organized opportunity for that."

On Oct. 2, First Church in Moreland will join Southern Baptist churches in the U.S. and Canada praying for the Lord to send workers to the harvest. Many are intentionally focusing their regularly scheduled Wednesday evening activities on prayer.

"We are going to replace our Wednesday night Bible study with an hour-long prayer service," Ausbun said. "No sermon, no songs, no testimonies — only prayer — a true prayer meeting. Everyone is welcome to come and pray. On Wednesday, Oct. 2 at 10:02 a.m. and 10:02 p.m. we want our entire church to pause and pray, wherever they are."

Gary Frost, NAMB's Midwest Region vice president who also leads the mission board's national prayer strategies, voiced excitement for TenTwo's potential to help bring the Gospel to communities throughout North America and beyond.

"Penetrating lostness in North America is a huge task,"

Frost said, noting that he often gets a "TenTwo buzz" in his travels, sometimes literally.

Baptists are "setting their phone alarms to 10:02 a.m. or p.m. to remind them to pray for God, by His Holy Spirit, to stir the hearts of harvesters to leave their comfort zones and work the fields. Personally it has become a vital and welcomed 'alert' for me every single day... of the lostness of our world and the urgency of sharing the love of Christ in every opportunity."

Churches like Rose Bud Church in Rose Bud, Ar., are not letting their lack of a weekly Wednesday night prayer meeting keep them from participating. The central Arkansas church will use the entire month of October to pray and promote TenTwo.

"We plan to kick off our efforts on the last Sunday in September," said Rose Bud ministry assistant Kathy Moss. "We will have home prayer meetings the first Sunday night in October and have other activities planned for the month using the TenTwo DVD and prayer guides."

At First Church in Moreland, Ausbun plans to preach from Luke 10:2 on Sunday, Sept. 29, in advance of TenTwo. "I'd like to encourage other pastors to remind their people who the Lord of the harvest is. I believe prayer evangelism is something we've gotten away from in the SBC. God sometimes has to remind me that only He can save a soul."

"Without prayer, our evangelism is fruitless. Pray for God to send workers to share Christ with the lost and pray for God to save lost people."

A TenTwo video is available at namb.net/video/tentwo/. Explore additional TenTwo resources at namb.net/TenTwo.

The End Times



Syria conflict, confusion have people looking to end times

NASHVILLE (BP) — Nearly one in three Americans see the threat of airstrikes against Syria as part of the Bible's plan for the end times, according to a LifeWay Research poll.

A quarter of respondents think a U.S. military strike in Syria could lead to Armageddon. One-fifth of those polled believe the world will end in their lifetime, LifeWay found. Results from the poll of 1,001 American adults surprised Ed Stetzer, president of LifeWay Research.

"We weren't talking about Armageddon during the air strikes on Bosnia," he said.

Previous U.S. military action, like the war in Afghanistan or air strikes during the 1990s war in Bosnia, didn't get the same reaction, he said. However, because Syria shares a border with Israel and is specifically mentioned in the Bible, people relate it to the end times, LifeWay found.

Still, Stetzer said he could see why linking Bible prophecy to Syria is appealing to many Christians. It's not that Christians want the world to end or want to see airstrikes which will lead to suffering, Stetzer said, but they do want Jesus to return to set things right.

"For Christians, the end of the world doesn't mean despair," he said. "The end is really a new beginning."

Israel plays a major role in biblical prophecy, particularly in the Christian theology of premillennial dispensationalism. That theology inspired the best-selling book, *The Late Great Planet Earth*, in the 1970s, and the more recent *Left Behind*

book series. A big-budget remake of *Left Behind* is currently in the works.

Most premillennial dispensationalists believe Christians will instantly disappear from the earth and be taken up to heaven during an event called the rapture, which will be followed by seven years of war and catastrophe. After the battle of Armageddon, Jesus will return and set up His kingdom on earth.

LifeWay Research asked three questions about Syria and the end of the world as part of a telephone survey of 1,001 Americans conducted Sept. 6-10.

Of those polled, 32% agreed with the statement, "I believe the battles in Syria are all part of the prophecies of the Book of Revelation." Forty-nine percent disagreed.

Among those surveyed, 26% affirmed, "I believe that U.S. military intervention in Syria might lead to the Battle of Armageddon that's spoken about in the Book of Revelation."

Women (36%) are more likely than men (28%) to see a link between current events in Syria and the Bible. Southerners (40%) and those with household incomes under \$25,000 (41%) are more likely to relate Syria's woes to the Bible. Northerners (24%) and those with incomes over \$75,000 (20%) are more skeptical.

The biggest difference came when people responded to the statement, "I believe the world will end in my lifetime." Overall, 18% agreed while 70% disagreed. Thirty percent of those with under \$25,000 in household income agreed. By contrast,

nine percent of those with household income over \$75,000 agreed with that statement.

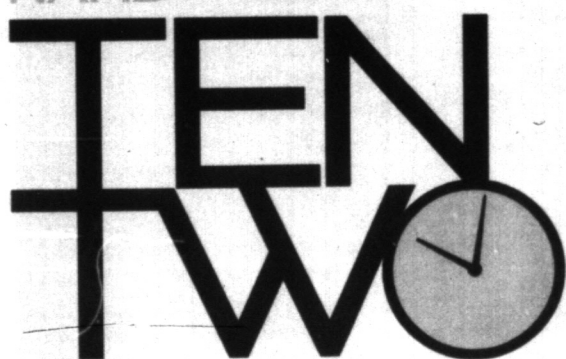
Religion and age also played in a role in how people responded to the poll. Those who attend worship once or twice a month were more likely to see a tie between Syria's trouble and the book of Revelation (51%), as are evangelical, born-again, and fundamentalist Christians (58%). Fewer of those who rarely (25%) or never attend worship service (14%) agreed.

Older Americans were more likely to think U.S. airstrikes could lead to the battle of Armageddon, with 34% of those over 65 agreeing. Only 21% of those 18 to 29 agreed. More younger Americans (24%) than older Americans (15%) think the world will end in their lifetime. About a third (32%) of evangelical, born-again, fundamentalist Christians believe the world will end in their lifetime.

Mark Hitchcock, pastor of Faith Bible Church in Edmond, Ok., and author of *The End: A Complete Overview of Bible Prophecy and the End of Days*, said he believes the Bible does predict future events in the Middle East, but the Bible prophecy teacher at Dallas Theological Seminary said he doesn't think the trouble in Syria was predicted in the Bible.

Instead, Hitchcock believes people want answers in troubled times. Economic hard times, political unrest, and violence overseas have many Americans fearful, he said, leading them to see unrest in the Middle East as a sign that God is acting in the world.

NAMB



LUKE 10:2

Most of us can vividly remember August 2005 when Katrina decimated the Gulf Coast. While the eye of the storm actually came into Mississippi, in the days that followed the major media attention was on New Orleans. While the city certainly received winds and water, the great destruction came when the levees broke and Lake Pontchartrain, the Mississippi River waters and the Gulf all filled up the basin of the city. The sights, sounds and the tragedy of those days continue to be riveting, breathtaking and heartbreaking even until now. Many of the deaths and much of the destruction that came to the river city was not because of Katrina and her fury, but because the city sits below sea level.

In spite of its location, through the years efforts had been made to make sure that the people would be protected and the city would not face that kind of crisis. Canals, pumps, levees and dams had given a sense of security year after year as storms came in or passed close by, but Katrina was a uniquely perfect storm: to be destructive. She was enormous, powerful and her timing was just right to push the waters in at maximum heights to overwhelm the levees. We all saw the results and watched and wept. While we all saw what took place in that city, I want to ask you to look at where you live and recognize the dangers that may be around and ahead of you.

Now before you think that you live hundreds of feet above sea level, allow me to point out clearly and unmistakably I am talking about your financial location. Most Americans are living deep in debt and on the edge



Living Below Sea Level

of being swamped by economic storms. As individuals, we are simply following other families, communities, cities, states and our entire country.

I do not even know how to begin to talk about the national debt of 17 trillion dollars. But this I do know, individually Americans are digging a deeper and deeper hole of debt. No doubt, you have read some of the information that has been released recently. This is not only the dilemma of young people but also of senior adults. During the year 2013, a change took place. The debt on our credit cards was exceeded by the debt that young people owed on student loans. It is incredible that over a trillion dollars is owed by young people. Many of these cannot get a job and most of them cannot figure out a way to pay back the money they borrowed to get an education.

Add to that many of them also have debt related to credit cards which means that they have double debt to deal with along with trying to get started in life. Many of them think that if they can just keep paying their monthly bill that everything will be okay, and they will figure out other ways to get out of debt. The problem is that they live so close to the edge that when a storm comes they are soon overwhelmed and see no way at all to get out of the disaster.

At the other end of the debt spectrum is something that has changed in the last several years about senior adults who are approaching their retirement years. It used to be that most folks when they got to that place in life were living in a home that was mortgage free, their debt load was paid off and they could live on considerably less. No longer is that true. The average

senior adult now supposedly comes to that moment with a mortgage payment that is sizeable and other debt that is over 50,000 dollars. One critical stay in the hospital and they can be on the edge of being homeless and hopeless. An individual can only live below sea level for so long until potentially they will be living in a flood. So what should we do?

The first step is that if you are ever going to stop getting into a deeper and deeper hole you have got to stop digging the hole. Paying off debt is never easy or fun, but it is essential if you are ever going to find yourself in a good spiritual stewardship position with the resources that God has given you. The answer to the dilemma is to stop borrowing and pay off more. Debt is an insidious thief that will come into your life and your home. Not only will it ruin you financially, but it will wreck relationships all around you. Eventually, it will decimate your future. No nation, but more importantly no person, can go on like that indefinitely without it costing beyond what you can even imagine.

Paul wrote to the church at Rome and said, "Owe no man anything, but to love one another" (Rom. 13:8). There may be times and places where you need to owe something in order to be able to accomplish what you are doing whether it is buying a car or a home, but you do not have to owe everybody everything. God will help you and you can be prepared to be a blessing and to withstand many of the storms that come in life.

The author can be contacted at directions@mccb.org.

MCRANEY

cont. from p. 1

mission in expanding God's Kingdom for His glory. I am excited about the journey I will share with our churches and their leaders."

McRaney was pastor of Jackson Avenue Church in Pascagoula from 1987-1991, and minister of youth and college at Faith Church, Starkville, from 1986-1987.

The Dade City, Fl., native credits First Church, Moss Point, as the location of his first ser-

mon delivered outside his home church in March 1987. A New Orleans Seminary student at the time, McRaney was filling in for pastor David Lee - the man he is now replacing at BCMD.

Lee, originally from North Carolina, pastored several churches in Mississippi and served as director of missions for Jackson County Association in Pascagoula.

McRaney was lead pastor at Daybreak Community Church in Littleton, Co., from 1992-1996 and founding pastor of Life Church in Mandeville, La., from 1997-99.

He served as professor of evangelism at New Orleans Seminary, occupying the Cecil B. Day Chair of Church Planting, from 1996-2000, and the Max and Bonnie Thornhill Chair of Evangelism from 2001-07.

In 2007, he left New Orleans Seminary to head the Florida Baptist Convention's evangelism strategy department. Since 2011, he has served as team strategist for Florida Baptists' English-speaking church planting team.

BIBL i O C I P H E R

KFC ZW T WRZOZQ: TDC QBAN QBTQ

GFOWBZR, BZJ JSWQ GFOWBZR BZJ ZD

WRZOZQ TDC ZD QOSQB.

LFBD XFSD: QGADQN-XFSD

Clue: A = E

Have fun with cryptography and exercise your Bible knowledge. A King James Version Bible verse has been encoded by letter substitution. The same letter is substituted throughout the puzzle. Solve by trial and error. Answer to last week's puzzle: Mark 11:25

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1. Lord, I admit that I need you. (I have sinned.)
2. I want forgiveness for my sins and freedom from eternal death. (I repent.)
3. I believe Jesus died and rose from the grave to forgive my sins and to restore my relationship with you. (I believe in Jesus.)
4. By faith, I invite Jesus Christ into my life. From this time on, I want to live in a loving relationship with Him. (I receive Christ as my Savior and Lord.)

"But as many as received him, to them he gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in his name." (John 1:12)

If you make a decision for Christ today, contact a local Southern Baptist church for spiritual guidance.

What I tell you in the darkness, speak in the light; and what you hear whispered in your ear, proclaim upon the

HOUSE TOPS.

Matthew 10:27 NAS

September 19, 2013

HouseTops is a Baptist Record supplement produced by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board's Communication Services.

LUNCH IS INCLUDED

Christian Action
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CHURCH

THE CHURCH & RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

**RELIGIOUS
LIBERTY**

When: October 28, 2013 - 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Where: First Baptist Church Jackson, Miss.
Christian Life Center Dining Room (2nd floor)

Registration: Register online at
www.MSpastorsConference2013.eventbrite.com

OR call 601-292-3329



Richard Land
President of Southern
Evangelical Seminary



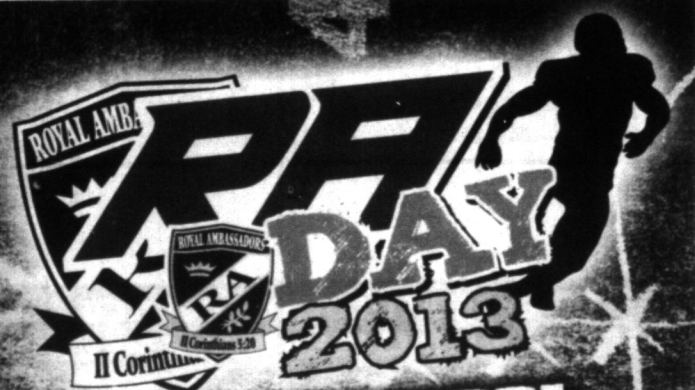
Russell Moore
President of The
Ethics & Religious
Liberty Commission

Richard Land and Russell Moore will discuss with pastors and church leaders the state of religious liberty as it relates to the proclamation of God's Word and how moral and ethical issues can be addressed in the local church. There is no charge for the event and lunch is included so preregistration is necessary. Space is limited to 150.

AMD & SEMINARY EXTENSION DIRECTORS BREAKFAST

**October 29
7-8 a.m.
Baptist Building
Chapel
Jackson, MS**

For more information and registration contact Cathy
Taylor (P/LD), cwtaylor@mbcb.org or
1-800-748-1651, ext. 305.



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For more information & registration contact the
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October 28, 2013

First Baptist Church, Jackson

1:30 p.m. - 3 p.m.

Guest Speaker: Barbie Bassett

Contact Cathy Taylor in the Pastor/Leadership Development Dept.
for registration information. 1-800-748-1651, ext. 305, or
cwtaylor@mbcb.org

BIVO SMALL CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING & MINISTERS WIVES MEETING

OCTOBER 28

BIVO Small Church Meeting, Baptist
Building Chapel, 3-4:45 p.m.

BIVO Small Church Ministers Wives
Banquet, FBC Jackson, 4:45 p.m.

BIVO SMALL CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING & MINISTERS WIVES MEETING
WILL RUN FROM 2:00 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.

Contact Pastor Leadership Development Dept. for more information and to register for both
of these events. 1-800-748-1651, ext. 305, or cwtaylor@mbcb.org

TOGETHER FOR CHRIST

September 24, 2013
Broadmoor Church, Madison

September 30, 2013
Harrisburg Church, Tupelo



PASTORS AND WORSHIP LEADERS 2013 WORKSHOPS

Please preregister so that we might prepare materials. For further information contact:
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THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST ALL STATE YOUTH CHOIR AND ORCHESTRA IS AN AUDITIONED AND INTERVIEWED GROUP OF 9TH-12TH GRADERS (2013-2014). THEY MUST BE ACTIVELY AND REGULARLY INVOLVED IN THE MUSIC MINISTRY OF A MISSISSIPPI SOUTHERN BAPTIST CHURCH. REGISTER 2 WEEKS PRIOR TO THE AUDITION.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2013
4:00 - 7:00 P.M.
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, MERIDIAN, MS

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2013
4:00 - 7:00 P.M.
FAIRVIEW BAPTIST CHURCH, COLUMBUS, MS

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2013
2:00 - 4:00 P.M.
NORTH OXFORD BAPTIST CHURCH, OXFORD, MS

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2013
1:00 - 4:00 P.M.
BAPTIST BUILDING, JACKSON, MS

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2013
2:00 - 5:00 P.M.
BAPTIST BUILDING, JACKSON, MS

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT THE CHURCH MUSIC DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION BOARD AT 1-800-748-1651, EXT. 267.

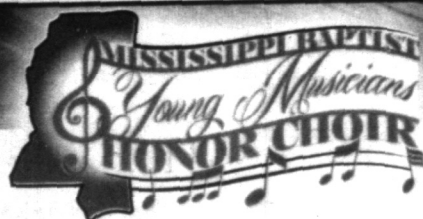
2014 Mississippi Baptist & Keyboard Festivals

JANUARY 23-25, 2014

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FOR MORE INFORMATION & REGISTRATION CONTACT THE CHURCH MUSIC DEPARTMENT OF THE MBCB AT 601-292-3272.



SAT., MARCH 29, 2014 - SUN., MARCH 30, 2014
MARCH 29, 8:00AM - MARCH 30, 4:00PM
WYNNDAL BAPTIST CHURCH, TERRY

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT THE CHURCH MUSIC DEPARTMENT OF THE MBCB AT 601-292-3272.

TRANSITIONAL PASTOR TRAINING

Dates: October 1, 2013

Time: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Location: MBCB, Sky Room

Cost: \$10 for Material

Led By:

Bruce Cappleman

Director, Church/Minister Relations

&

Alan Woodward

Director, Pastor/Leadership Development

Please make reservations by September 20, 2013, so that we might prepare materials.

Contact: Carol Taylor, Church-Minister Relations Department, 1-800-748-1651, 601-292-3227 or E-mail chtaylor@mbcb.org

see.
hear.
GO.

MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST
STUDENT MISSIONS

FOR WE CANNOT HELP BUT SPEAK ABOUT WHAT WE
HAVE SEEN AND HEARD - ACTS 4:20

BE A 2014 SUMMER MISSIONARY
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For more information contact the Collegiate Ministry of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board at 601-292-3299.

Pray this day for...

September 20 - October 10, 2013

"For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them." Matthew 18:20

Pray for: **Janey Hol-loway**, missionary ministering to European Peoples through student evangelism.

Pray for a team from **Lamar Association, Hattiesburg**, going to Missouri, 9/23-9/28, for construction.

Pray for: **Ronald & Beverly Holmes**, missionaries ministering to European Peoples through church planting, church/home outreach & evangelism.

Pray for: **Michael & Patricia Holyfield**, missionaries ministering to European Peoples.

Pray for: **Daniel & Claudia Hood**, missionaries ministering to North African & Middle Eastern Peoples through church/home outreach & evangelism.

Pray for a team of 14 from **FBC, Tupelo**, going to Ecuador, 9/20-10/10, for medical missions.

Pray for: **Jeffrey & Liesa Holeman**, missionaries ministering to American Peoples through strategy coordination.

Pray for: **Millard & Susan Jones**, missionaries ministering to East Asian Peoples through student evangelism.

Pray for: **John & Melinda Kyzar**, missionaries ministering to European Peoples through personalization, church/home outreach & evangelism.

Pray for: **Timothy & Rebecca Lightsey**, missionaries ministering to American Peoples through strategy coordination, church/home outreach & evangelism.

Pray for: **Bob & Amy Little**, missionaries ministering to Sub-Saharan African Peoples.

Pray for: **Asbury & Jeannie Martin**, missionaries ministering to American Peoples through church/home outreach & evangelism.

Pray for: **Tom & Cynthia Martin**, missionaries ministering in Las Vegas, NV through the NAMB.

Pray for: **Robert & Janice Mooney**, missionaries ministering to European Peoples through strategy coordination, church/home outreach & evangelism.

Pray for: **Stephen & Svetlana Parish**, missionaries ministering to European Peoples through strategy coordination, church/home outreach & evangelism.

Pray for: **Kevin & Brenda Peacock**, missionaries ministering to European Peoples through theological education, church/home outreach & evangelism.

Pray for: **John & Sarah Perkins**, missionaries ministering to European Peoples through mission support, church/home outreach & evangelism.

Pray for: **Michael & Sarah Prewitt**, missionaries ministering to European Peoples through church planting, church/home outreach & evangelism.

Pray for: **John & Amy Puri**, missionaries ministering to European Peoples through volunteer coordination, community outreach.

The IMB missionaries listed in the Housetops prayer calendar are currently active in 2-4 year terms or in career service.

Together for Christ One-Day Stewardship Revival

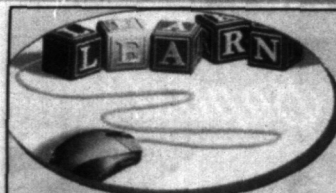


It is a challenge about shared sacrifice for the sake of missions, in proportion to the resources God has provided. It does not call for resources that churches do not have, but for a renewal in the percentage they devote to missions.

There is no better way to navigate the current financial crossroads in missions giving during these challenging economic times than with a renewed commitment to the Cooperative Program.

When church members give to their church in proportion to what they have, and churches give to missions in proportion to what they have, God provides all we need to do what He's called us to do.

For more information contact the Stewardship/CP Promotion Dept. at 1-800-748-1651, ext. 347.

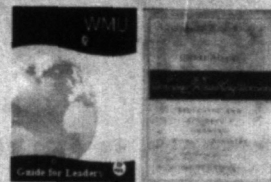


The Adult and Women's Ministry courses cost \$15, all other courses cost \$10. Courses can be completed anytime and from anywhere. This is truly leadership development at your convenience.

For more information about Online Training contact Tammy Anderson at 601-292-3323 or tanderson@mbcb.org.

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Mother/Daughter OVERNIGHT

5 p.m., Fri., October 18 - 2 p.m., Sat., October 19, 2013
5 p.m., Fri., November 15 - 2 p.m., Sat., November 16
Garaywa Camp & Conference Center

Mother/Daughter Overnight is a special time for mothers and daughters (grades 1 - 6) to share at Garaywa Camp & Conference Center. Participants will have an opportunity to meet and spend time with missionaries. Activities include worship, campfire, crafts and recreation. All overnights begin at 5 p.m. on Friday and conclude at 2 p.m. on Saturday.

For more information contact Garaywa Camp & Conference Center at 601-924-7034.

HOUSE TOPS

Revivals & Homecomings

► **Enon Church, Grenada:** Revival, Sept. 22 - 25; Sun., 11 a.m., followed by covered dish lunch and singing with Bradford Chapel out of the Heavenly Highways song book and afternoon service; Mon. - Wed., 7 p.m.; Wayne Hudson, speaker; Joel Ingram, music.

► **Beulah Church, Lexington:** Homecoming, Sept. 22, 11 a.m., followed by lunch and afternoon singing; music provided by local talent; Jim Lee, speaker.

► **Macedonia Church, Blue Mountain:** Homecoming and revival, Sept. 22 - 25; Sun., 10 a.m., service and singing, followed by potluck lunch; Mon. - Wed., 7 p.m.; 4 Ever Praise, music; Wayne Cobb, speaker; Terry Hall, pastor.

► **Rocky Point Church, Carthage:** Homecoming, Sept. 22; services, 10:45 a.m., followed by potluck meal and afternoon services; Tim Tolleson, speaker; Craig Bain and local talent, music.

► **First Church, Glendale,**

Hattiesburg: Homecoming, Sept. 22; services, 10 a.m., followed by lunch; George Berger, speaker; Ronnie Cottingham, music; Jimmy Hill, pastor.

► **Center Church, Blue Springs:** Revival, Sept. 22 - 25; Sun., 6 p.m.; Mon. - Wed., 7 p.m.; Tommy Whaley, speaker.

► **First Church, Potts Camp:** Revival, Sept. 22 - 25; Sun., 6 p.m.; Mon. - Wed., 7 p.m.; Phil Glisson, speaker.

► **Gillsburg Church, Gillsburg:** Revival, Sept. 22 - 24; Sun., 11 a.m. and 5:45 p.m., followed by fellowship meal; Mon. - Tues., 7 p.m.; Jimmy Porter, speaker; Price Harris, music.

► **Sunrise Church, Carthage:** Homecoming, Sept. 22; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m., followed by potluck lunch; Mark Metcalf, speaker; Don Wallace, music.

► **North Morton Church, Morton:** Homecoming, Sept. 22; services, 10:30 a.m., followed by lunch; Paul Smith, speaker; Reggie Williams, music; Gary Wyatt, pastor.



FRIENDSHIP EAST CHURCH, CHARLESTON, celebrated its 100th anniversary Oct. 7, 2012. Shown is AMD Lowell Ingram presenting the Centennial Certificate from the Mississippi Baptist Historical Commission to pastor Robert Clark.

MOTTO

cont. from p. 1

The lead plaintiff in the case was atheist Rosalyn Newdow, whose physician son Michael Newdow brought a lawsuit against the federal government in 2002 alleging that the words, "under God," in the Pledge of Allegiance exposed his school-aged daughter to brainwashing and scorn as an atheist, thus violating the separation of church and state.

Michael Newdow, who is also honorary director of the Freedom from Religion Foundation, lost his case in the U.S. Supreme Court on procedural grounds in 2004.

The phrase, "In God We Trust," was added to all U.S. currency in 1955, one year after President Dwight Eisen-

hower signed legislation adding, "under God," to the Pledge of Allegiance. Atheists repeatedly have challenged the use of the phrase on monuments, government buildings, and currency.

Baer wrote in his legal opinion dismissing the New York case that the courts have a long history of testing establishment cases. In *Lemon v. Kurtzman*, Baer wrote, the Supreme Court developed three tests to determine whether the Establishment Clause has been violated. The high court said in that case:

■ A statute must have a secular legislative purpose.

■ "Its principal or primary effect must be one that neither advances nor inhibits religion."

■ "The statute must not fos-

ter 'an excessive government entanglement with religion.'

"The Supreme Court has repeatedly assumed the motto's secular purpose and effect, and all circuit courts that have considered this issue — namely the Ninth, Fifth, Tenth, and D.C. Circuit — have found no constitutional violation in the motto's inclusion on currency," Baer wrote, adding that the courts have distinguished currency because it is normally concealed and doesn't require an individual to advertise the motto.

"Each circuit court that has considered the issue found no Establishment Clause violation in the motto's placement on currency, finding ceremonial or secular purposes and no religious effect or endorsement," Baer wrote.

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THE MISSISSIPPI LINCOLN COUNTY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION IS NOW ACCEPTING RESUMES FOR THE POSITION OF ASSOCIATIONAL MISSIONS DIRECTOR. All interested parties please submit a resume to LBA, P.O. Box 363, Brookhaven, MS 39602 or e-mail to linbapt@comcast.net. All resumes must be submitted or postmarked by October 4, 2013.

GOOD HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH, NANNIWAYA (NEAR LOUISVILLE) IS SEEKING A FULL TIME ASSOCIATE PASTOR TO YOUTH&CHILDREN. Send resumes to 12956 Hwy 490 Louisville Ms 39339

LEMOYNE BOULEVARD BAPTIST CHURCH SEEKING INTERIM AND PERMANENT PASTOR. Please send resumes to: LBBC Pastor Search Committee, 15005 Lemoine Blvd, Biloxi, MS 39532

UNION HALL BAPTIST CHURCH, BROOKHAVEN, MS IS SEEKING A PART-TIME BIVOCATIONAL YOUTH DIRECTOR. Resumes may be mailed to the church at 1242 Nola Road N. E., Brookhaven, MS 39601. ATTENTION: Youth Director Search Committee.

MINISTER OF STUDENTS / ASSOCIATE PASTOR- BROOKSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH. Job Description available on website www.brooksideob.com. Send cover letter and Resume to: Brookside Baptist Church, Personnel Team 4993 Hwy 302 E. Olive Branch, MS 38654

ARLINGTON HEIGHTS BAPTIST CHURCH OF PASCAGOULA, MISSISSIPPI IS SEEKING A FULL-TIME MINISTER OF MUSIC. Send resumes to Arlington Heights Baptist Church Attention Search Committee 3819 Arlington St., Pascagoula, MS 39361 or email to arlington_church@bellsouth.net

BIVOCATIONAL YOUTH MINISTER, WILWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH IN CLINTON, MS. Please mail resume to Wilwood Baptist Church, 101 Auburn Dr., Clinton, MS 39056 or email to wbcb@comcast.net

DUCK HILL BAPTIST CHURCH IN DUCK HILL, MS IS SEEKING A FULL-TIME STUDENT PASTOR/MINISTER OF MUSIC. Please e-mail resumes to dmbc_secretary@yahoo.com

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MERIDIAN BAPTIST CHURCH, JACKSON, TENN. (WWW.MBCJAX.ORG) IS SEEKING A FULL TIME ASSOCIATE PASTOR OF YOUTH AND RECREATION. Please e-mail your resume to cooper_monte@yahoo.com. Application Deadline: October 25

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Submission Guidelines

The Baptist Record is pleased to publish news and photographs of special events that take place in cooperating churches of the Mississippi Baptist Convention. News items and/or photographs depicting benefits and activities for secular or outside organizations will not be published.

• Preferred method: news may be submitted electronically to the e-mail address below, and must be included in the message segment of an e-mail form. Secondary method: news may be typewritten or neatly printed on 8 1/2 by 11-inch paper and mailed. All articles must be received in writing; no articles will be accepted over the telephone. Due to ever-present virus threats, no text attachments will be accepted. Photograph attachments in JPEG format are permissible.

Please make articles concise. Include the who, what, when, where details of the story, along with a contact person's address and telephone number.

Photographs must be submitted electronically

via e-mail, as attachments in JPEG format. Hard copy photographs mailed through the postal service will not be accepted. Photographs must be clear, sharp, and well-lighted. Photographs must depict people. No landscape, building, or object-only photographs will be printed. Photographs containing inappropriate gestures and objectionable clothing will not be published. Cell phone photographs and other low resolution items that do not reproduce well on newsprint are generally not publishable.

There is no guarantee that news items and/or photographs will be published, and unsolicited material will not be acknowledged. All news items are subject to editing, and all photographs are subject to cropping. News items and/or photographs can be published one time only. Deadline for submitting news is one week prior to requested publication date. Articles that are not date-sensitive will be published on a space-available basis. These guidelines are not meant to be exhaustive.

Submit news to The Baptist Record, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. FAX: (601) 292-3330. E-mail: baptistrecord@mbcb.org.

THE VILLAGE VIEW



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GIFTS OF HONOR AND MEMORY

A portion of The Village View is allocated each month to a list of Gifts of Honor and Memory. Many groups and individuals elect to pay tribute to others through this sensitive, meaningful, and helpful medium. This feature is hopefully designed to further honor, with taste and respect, those who are and have been special to our special friends.

JULY 2013

MEMORIALS

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Malcolm Carter
Mr. & Mrs. Ernest L. Scruggs
Mrs. Pernelle Case
Mr. & Mrs. Edward E. Smith
Rivers Catledge
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Vieh Cecil
Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Hollingsworth
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Ms. Harriet McGehee and Family
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Samantha Crowell
Mr. Opal Vickers
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Eddie & Monica Truhitt
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Rev. R. C. Rice
Mr. & Mrs. Lamar Kilpatrick
Ms. Sandra Ladner
Montana Roberts
Dr. & Mrs. Harold Ward
Peggy Joyce Rushing
Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Sisco
Nita Russon
Buddy & Linda Meyer

Salvation Offered • John 3:1-16

I could not believe my eyes. There they were in a store in Jackson. Surely, it was a mirage. A quick assessment of my senses confirmed what I saw in front of me was in fact, real: Christmas decorations in August! It was close to 100 degrees outside, but inside it was December and festive. It appears the stores and shops begin the Holiday rush earlier each year. While our commercial-crazy culture is something we cannot avoid, there is something we can do. We can remember the source of Christmas no matter the date on the calendar. If you are reading this commentary, it is a safe assumption that you have heard John 3:16 before. But how recently have you stopped and realized the great gift God gave us when He sent Jesus to the world? The incarnation of Christ is the single most important event in history. Without it, the crucifixion and resurrection would not have been possible. Venture with me through a portion of John 3 as we contemplate a series of questions.

Curious? (3:1-3)

Because of his high standing among the religious leaders of the day, much attention has been given to the fact Nicodemus visited with Jesus at night. Most imply Nicodemus did this to avoid being seen by his fellow Pharisees. Others believe he did so to have more one-on-one time with Christ and avoid the crowds that followed Him daily. While it may make for interesting discussion, it is by no means the

most meaningful part of the story.

Nicodemus came to Christ with questions. In other words, he came with curiosity. You may not realize it, but there are countless numbers of people each week that visit your church worship services with deep and sincere questions about Jesus. Do not be afraid of their questions. Questions are often-time indicative of a growing faith. Some days my wife and I are inundated with questions from our two daughters. They may range from the simple to the insoluble, but it shows their willingness to learn and seek understanding.

Concerns? (3:4-9)

Nicodemus moves from curiosity to some genuine concerns. In verse 3, Jesus has shared with Nicodemus he must be born again to see the kingdom of God. What did Jesus mean, "born again?" "How can someone be born when they are old?" "Entering into the womb a second time is not possible, is it?" Nicodemus expressed concern and maybe a hint of worry. His questions revealed his difficulty understanding. Again, I remind you: questions are acceptable to God. He can handle



Explore the Bible

with Bobby McKay

them. He is neither angered nor disturbed by our queries. Jesus shares with him the fact of salvation being a work of the Spirit. There is nothing anyone can "do" to experience salvation. It must be a supernatural act. Even still, Nicodemus had questions. "How can this be?" he inquired.

Comprehend? (3:10-12)

While Christ demonstrated patience and love toward Nicodemus, He also wanted to challenge him beyond religious comprehension. It is also evident in verse 10 that

Christ is making a deliberate point. Christ asked Nicodemus, "Are you a teacher of Israel and do not understand

these things?" Jesus is not attempting to humiliate Nicodemus, but He is teaching him humility. Christ was illustrating to Nicodemus that while he may have thought he had the textbook answers correct, he was still not accepting the fact that salvation is from above. From the outside, Nicodemus was intelligent, pious and respected. On the inside, (where only Jesus can see)

he was ignorant, lost and in need. He was also loved.

Consider? (3:12-16)

With these verses in front of us, we have the most popular known passage in the history of Scripture. I asked you earlier in this commentary if you have recently paused and realized how great of a gift the Father gave us when He sent His Son into the world. Well, have you? Will you stop and consider the Father's love? Do it. Right Now! God's love for the world has no expiration date, no conditions, and no fine print. In his modern hymn, "How Deep the Father's Love for Us," Stuart Townend beautifully composed these words:

How deep the Father's love for us, how vast beyond all measure, that He should give His only Son To make a wretch His treasure.

I will not boast in anything no gifts, no power, no wisdom, but I will boast in Jesus Christ His death and resurrection.

Why should I gain from His reward? I cannot give an answer, but this I know with all my heart His wounds have paid my ransom.

McKay is pastor of Harperville Church, Harperville.

The Pressure of Words • James 3:1-18

I try to ignore the admonitions and wisdom of James as much as possible. He is so in my face as he talks about two major issues in Chapter 3 that I need not ignore. One is choosing to be a teacher and then controlling the tongue. He makes no bones about teachers being judged more strictly and therefore must be more cautious about what, when, where, how we teach. A teacher is not confined to one who stands in the classroom, but parents, co-workers, supervisors, siblings, spouses, CEO's, presidents, mechanics, every classification of humanity is a teacher. (My dad used to say "you can learn something from everybody - either what to do or what not to do".)

How often have you heard families with a mentally/physically challenged member say that child taught them more than a 1,000 other folks? I always believe that one. I grew up with one of my peers who gave up for adoption her newborn Downs Syndrome child some 20 years ago. She slowly and sadly realized her own life become myopic, diminished, and was denied life-giving incentives. Sadly in America, we have those "teaching" without being called, and erroneously instructing the church in its doctrines and Biblical interpretations. Sad indeed.

The Biblical term "nouthesia" means to bring about change by verbal means. The Word came in the flesh to bring about God's change. V. 2 paraphrased says "all of us stumble in many ways, and if you do not stumble in speech, you are a perfect man." A Christian is charged with spreading truth, and this can be distorted by allowing ill-chosen words to be heard from us. Gossip is a most powerful tool, destroying homes, churches, companies, employment, marriages, ad infinitum. Often it is not what is said but where and how it is said that creates a seemingly never ending problem. What a wonder our mouth and vocal chords are!

In V. 2-12 James give us clear examples of the power of speech, and on through the rest of the chapter, he deals with conflict, quarreling and strife. A 2,000 pound Clydesdale horse is controlled by use of a small bit in the

mouth, a small rudder controls the direction of a huge ship, and one small lighted match can start miles and miles of fire. There are things much larger than your tongue but much easier to control.

There are not too many details from James about how to control the tongue, but one is to be slow to anger (this delays wagging your tongue). Bridle the tongue before it bridle you. Deny the new age lie that self

must come first since the Christian message clearly says put God and your neighbor before you. Don't convince yourself

that the whole world should revolve around you (or your children), for that can take a tragic turn.

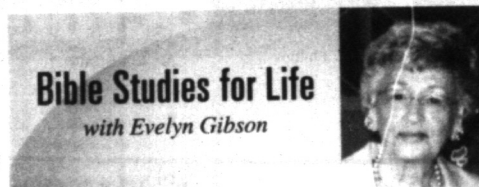
The true wisdom James talks about in V. 17-18 is not worthless, but is a gift from God: pure, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, and free from iniquity, defilements, and hypocrisy. This

replaces rudeness, jealousy, the cruelty of tempers and self-serving personalities. He gives instructions on how to be a peacemaker - learn to live righteously and you will harvest peace. That's a whole bunch better than disruption, chaos, anger, etc. Be open to reasonableness - don't be a know-it-all, but be willing to at least listen to what others have to say. You might hear something that could soften your attitude. Learn to be merciful and do something for others that you may not even think they deserve. Stop with the wrangling.

When you actively seek to become a peacemaker, you have done something you can secretly be proud of, especially within your own family. Avoiding disruption and confusion brings folks closer together and closeness empowers you. Righteous living brings about peace. Wisdom will usually prevail when we stop, look, listen and think before we speak. Unhappily, most of us can recall some really harsh and hurtful words we spent years overcoming.

Remember there are words of kindness and appreciation that can change a personality in a few seconds.

Gibson is a member of Monticello Church, Monticello.



Bible Studies for Life

with Evelyn Gibson

College and Seminary News

► The Southwestern Seminary alumni meeting will be held at First Church, Jackson, Oct. 29, noon. Tickets, \$8, and can be obtained by contacting Archie Herrin, 1962 National Guard Rd., Columbia, MS 39429 or

email archie_herrin@att.net.

► The U. S. News and World Report rankings recently released placed William Carey University #11 in "Best Value in the South among Regional Universities." Carey is also ranked #36 among re-

gional universities in the South. WCU's ranking among regional universities increased significantly from #69 last year. According to U.S. News, the calculation used takes into account a school's academic quality, as indicated by its 2014

U.S. News Best Colleges ranking, and the 2012-2013 net cost of attendance for a student who receives the average level of need-based financial aid. The higher the quality of the program and the lower the cost, the better value a college has.

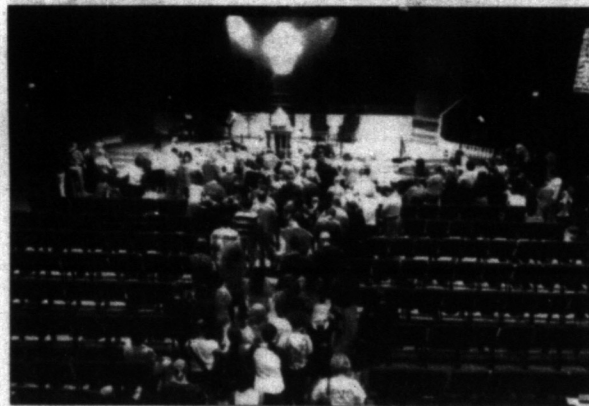
Just for the Record



The GAs of **BETHANY CHURCH, POTTS CAMP**, collected 65 New Testaments for Christmas in August. Donald Worsham, pastor.



SUNRISE CHURCH, CARTHAGE, held a dedication service and note-burning for their new sanctuary. Shown with pastor David Addy are the building committee and deacons.



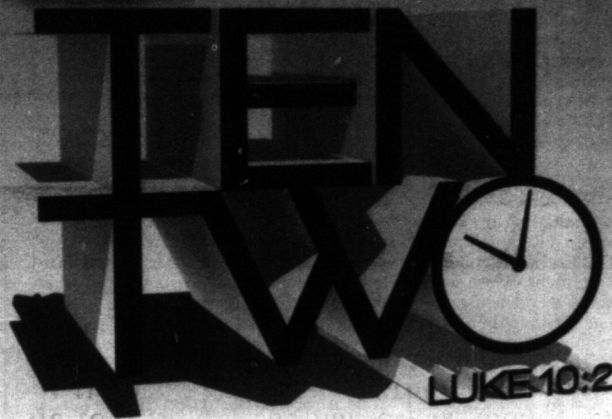
Members of **NEW HEIGHTS CHURCH, SUMMIT**, are shown gathering at the altar for prayer during the church's Sept. 11 remembrance service. Rick Kennedy, pastor.

In other Church News:

- **First Church, Gautier**, began a ministry, Bridge Church, Sept. 14. The new ministry meets Saturdays at 6:30 p.m. for a time of corporate musical worship and preaching, and is designed to create an atmosphere that allows people to worship however God leads.
- **First Church, Runnelstown**, is hosting Karen Peck and New River in concert Sept. 27, 7 p.m. Love offering.
- **Enterprise Church, Clarke County**, will host a Beth Moore Living Proof simulcast Sept. 28, 8 a.m. Tickets, \$20, including admission, listening guide, and a brown bag lunch. For more information call (601) 479-2716 or email beckustech@bellsouth.net.
- **Crestview Church, Petal**, will host Ronnie Cottingham in concert Sept. 22, 6 p.m.

IT'S TIME TO PRAY

NAMB



"He told them: 'The harvest is abundant, but the workers are few. Therefore, pray to the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest.'"

October 2, 2013

Lead your church to join churches
across North America on
Wednesday, October 2,
in praying Luke 10:2 for
workers in God's harvest.

Learn more at namb.net/TenTwo